

From: Peter Stephen Erskine
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/23/02 5:12am
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Please may I say that I feel the proposed settlement is very unsatisfactory for the public.

Microsoft have recently demonstrated dishonesty and predatory anticompetitive practices in the Corel case. They destroyed competing software completely (all the Corel office products) by shutting down Corel.

By offering to give Microsoft-based computers to schools they are magnifying their existing monopoly grip. School pupils need to learn other operating systems and languages - those such as Java and C++ which are designed from the outset to work with ALL computing environments. If you let schools have Microsoft stuff, its designed to NOT WORK with other platforms. This is pretty useless nowadays as the decent servers are Unix based.

Microsofts monopoly over users desktops has all but strangled innovation in computer science. They have not done anything innovative since 1992 (and even that was questionable as all the concepts were stolen).

Peter Erskine

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